

1 traditional union work to more docile, less expensive
2 supervisors.

3 Clarence Williams reported in the Sun
4 Herald on line that the first task of a new Executive
5 Director of the National Gaming Impact Study
6 Commission ought to be to devise a work plan and
7 incorporate it with the initial research agenda the
8 Commission adopted.

9 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Mr. Bottino (sic), I'm
10 going to have to ask you to stop right there. That's
11 not Mr. -- that's Mr. Shuster. Mr. Shuster, I'm going
12 to have to ask you to stop there, but please know that
13 we would like you to submit your entire statement for
14 the record.

15 MR. SHUSTER: I've done that.

16 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you very much.

17 Now Mr. Bottino. Thank you for being
18 here.

19 MR. BOTTINO: Good evening, Madame
20 Chairperson and Commissioners. Welcome to Atlantic
21 City.

22 My name is Joseph Bottino, and I would

1 like to tell you a little bit about myself. I
2 consider myself an Atlantic City success story.

3 I first came here from the Philadelphia
4 area where I was a high school and trade school
5 dropout, working a bunch of dead end jobs. A friend
6 advised me to join the Hotel and Restaurant Workers
7 Union, Local 54, to seek work.

8 I went to join on my 18th birthday. I got
9 a job that day. I've been employed ever since. I've
10 worked my way through the ranks from dishwasher to
11 busboy, to my current position as a gourmet waiter in
12 Donald Trump's finest restaurants.

13 I've been able to accomplish a lot over
14 the last 16 years due to my hard work, consistent
15 casino jobs, and excellent union benefits and
16 representation. I believe I am living the American
17 dream. I have a wonderful wife, a fine son, and a
18 beautiful daughter. I have a dog and a cat. I drive
19 a stationwagon. I own a nice house in a good
20 neighborhood. I'm still working on the white picket
21 fence.

22 (Laughter.)

1 MR. BOTTINO: I've been able to build such
2 a life for myself because of the opportunities
3 provided to me by the existence of the casinos.

4 In closing, I want to thank you for the
5 chance to talk to you. It is my hope that you will
6 keep in mind that there are many people like me on
7 whom the gaming industry has made a positive impact.

8 Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you, Mr. Bottino.
10 Mr. Scotland.

11 MR. SCOTLAND: Good evening. My name is
12 John Scotland, and I'm the pastor of the Community
13 Presbyterian Church of Brigantine.

14 Tomorrow you will receive a copy of a
15 study that our church commissioned with the United
16 States Gambling Research Institute that was released
17 today. That study was born from a need to better
18 understand who we are and what God calls us to do as
19 Presbyterians who live and work in the Atlantic City
20 metropolitan area in times when gambling dominates the
21 economic, social, and political ethos of this
22 community.